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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Austria/USSR

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SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information on the Communist Party of Austria (KPOe)

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C-3 1. The three representatives of the Freie Oesterreichische Jugend (FOeJ) selected to fly to Moscow on or about 25 April 1950 to attend the May Day ceremonies were:

a. Otto Brichacek - Head of the FOeJ.
b. Walter Opferkuh - FOeJ representative from Lower Austria.
c. Schnurcel - Member of the City Directorate of the FOeJ.

2. One Tropper, formerly the director of the Wiener Lagerhaus A.G., a large storage warehouse for perishable merchandise in Vienna, has been appointed Bezirksleiter of the KPOe in Vienna II. This is considered a key position in the KPOe in Vienna because of the large Communist membership in this district.

3. Otto Brichacek is reported to be in close contact with one Czedik, Vienna III, Rasumovskygasse 2, 3rd floor, who is possibly a KPOe courier. Czedik travels frequently to the Eastern Zone of Germany and is at present preparing to travel to Italy on behalf of an unidentified Russian commercial organization. Czedik allegedly obtained his visa through the intervention of someone in the Ministry of Agriculture in Vienna. He frequently visits Soviet offices in the Hotel Imperial, Vienna I, Kaerntnerring 16.

B-3 4. There are at present 3800 KPOe cells (Sprengel) in Vienna. Each cell consists of 7 to 10 members.

5. According to Walter Totz, KPOe chief of the 7th District, 70 percent of the former KPOe members have so far requested new party books.

6. Karl Fiedler, until now Chief of Gebietsleitung I in the 7th District, was transferred to the post of District Secretary in the 8th District.

7. Dr. Berthold Broda, lecturer (Dozent) at the Vienna University, is also an instructor at the KPOe school "Seminar Alfred Klahr", Vienna XVIII, Martinstrasse 92.

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8. Ministerialrat Eng. Gustav Hammerschlag, allegedly employed by the Ministry of Electrification, signed his name to a peace resolution circulated by the KPOe in the 7th District and must be considered a KPOe sympathizer.

9. The Central Committee of the KPOe has set up a commission for the development of the women's movement within the KPOe. The following persons are serving on this commission: Anny Gall, Hermine Klapper, Friedrich Hexmann, Josef Lauscher, and Franz Strohmann.

10. Josef Thaler was elected Landesobmann and Friedrich Egger, Deputy Landesobmann of the Communist Tenant Protection League in Tyrol. The office of the League is located in Innsbruck, Andreas-Hoferstrasse 19.

11. The KPOe expects to train approximately 1000 new functionaries in district evening schools in the course of 1950.

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